

**Spending Plan for Implementation of the
American Rescue Plan Act of 2021,
Section 9817**

Quarter 1 FFY 2023

July 18, 2022

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Iowa Spending Plan for Implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Section 9817

Letter from the Iowa Medicaid Administrator

Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Via email: HCBSincreasedFMAP@cms.hhs.gov

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services,

The Iowa Department of Human Services and Iowa Medicaid appreciates CMS' partial approval of Iowa's proposed spending plan and narrative in response to SMDL #21-003 dated May 13, 2021. Iowa agrees to maintain compliance with program requirements as stated in the SMDL#21-003, including the following:

- Iowa will use the federal funds attributable to the increased federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) to supplement and not supplant existing state funds expended for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) in effect as of April 1, 2021.
- Iowa will use the state funds equivalent to the amount of federal funds attributable to the increased FMAP to implement or supplement the implementation of one or more activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program.
- Iowa will not impose stricter eligibility standards, methodologies, or procedures for HCBS programs and services than were in place on April 1, 2021.
- Iowa will preserve covered HCBS, including the services themselves and the amount, duration, and scope of those services, in effect as of April 1, 2021; and
- Iowa will maintain HCBS provider payments at a rate no less than those in place as of April 1, 2021.

Iowa would also like to affirm the understanding of the requirements outlined in the letter received September 13, 2021, including:

- Iowa understands that that approval of the spending plan or of any activities within the spending plan by CMS does not constitute approval for purposes of claiming federal financial participation. Iowa will continue to comply with all existing federal requirements for allowable claims, including documenting expenditures and draws to ensure a clear audit trail for the use of federal funds

reported on the Form CMS-37 and the Medicaid Program Budget Report and the Form CMS-64, Quarterly Medicaid Statement of Expenditures.

- Iowa will continue to follow the applicable rules and processes for section 1915(c) waivers, other Medicaid HCBS authorities, including state plan amendments and section 1115 demonstrations, and other managed care authorities (as applicable), when making changes to an HCBS program and intend to use state funds equivalent to the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay the state share of the costs associated with those changes.

Spending Plan Activity Response October 2021.

The Iowa Department of Human Services and Iowa Medicaid appreciate the request for additional information about the proposed projects outlined in our spending plan and narrative. Below, please find the responses to your questions included in the letter received September 13, 2021.

1. Clearly indicate whether the activities under the following categories are targeted at providers delivering services that are listed in Appendix B of the SMDL or that could be listed in Appendix B (e.g., behavioral health services that are covered under another benefit but could be covered under the rehabilitative services benefit):
 - Increased Training and Support: Provider Training Platform; HCBS Employee Training and Scholarship Grant Program; Crisis Response Provider Training; and Health IT Infrastructure.
 - Expanded Access: Behavioral Health, Aging, and Disability Services System Evaluation (Study); Behavioral Health, Aging, and Disability Services System Realignment Implementation; Development Grant - Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Services (CNRS) pilot for children; Development Grant - Residential Services Pilot for Children with Complex Behavioral Needs; and Development Grant - Residential Service Pilot for Adults Transitioning Out of Correctional Environments; and
 - Workforce Support: One-time Recruitment/Retention Provider Payments.

Response: Iowa confirms that all the activities listed in the projects noted above are targeted at providers delivering services that are listed in Appendix B of the SMDL or that could be listed in Appendix B.

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2. Explain how the “Targeted Case Management Assistance with Waiver Applications” activity will supplement and not supplant existing state funds expended for Medicaid HCBS as of April 1, 2021.

Response: Iowa has revised the title of this project to Assistance with application, care coordination, and referral to services, and confirms that activity will supplement and not supplant existing state funds expended for Medicaid HCBS. This will be a new support available for applicants seeking HCBS Waiver services. Currently individuals seeking HCBS are only eligible to receive HCBS waiver case management services once approved for an HCBS waiver. The state plan targeted case management service is limited to individuals who are part of the target population. This includes adults who are identified with a primary diagnosis of intellectual disability, chronic mental illness, or developmental disability; or a child who is eligible to receive HCBS intellectual disability waiver services or HCBS children’s mental health waiver services. The spending plan narrative has been updated to reflect this clarification.

3. Under the “Development Grant-Residential Services Pilot for Children with Complex Behavioral Needs,” confirm whether the Psychiatric Medical Institution for Children providers are delivering services in an institutional setting. Please note that an initiative serving individuals in an institutional setting would not be approvable under ARP section 9817.

Response: Iowa confirms that should a Psychiatric Medical Institution for Children (PMIC) provider apply to develop the residential services for children with complex behavioral needs that they would be delivering the services in a community-based setting. The spending plan narrative has been updated to reflect that these services are to be delivered in community-based settings.

4. Clearly indicate whether your state plans to pay for ongoing internet connectivity costs as part of any of the activities under the “Expand Remote Support through HCBS Provider Technology grants” activity.

Response: Iowa confirms that the state does not plan to pay for ongoing internet connectivity costs as part of any of the activities under the “Expand Remote Support through HCBS Provider Technology grants” activity. The state has updated the spending plan narrative to reflect this exclusion.

5. Describe how each of the four types of Development Grants will expand capacity and will enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program.

Response: Each of the Development Grants will expand and strengthen the HCBS program by creating residential options for the most difficult to serve

HCBS eligible members. DHS has updated the spending plan narrative to include a description of how each pilot project will expand capacity and enhance, expand, and strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program.

We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to use these dollars to boost the capacity and quality of community-based services in our community. We welcome the opportunity to further discuss or clarify Iowa's proposed projects as outlined above and in our spending plan and narrative quarterly report.

The designated contact for future communication and questions is listed below:

LeAnn Moskowitz, LTSS Policy Specialist, 515-321-8922, lmoskow@dhs.state.ia.us

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Matney", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Elizabeth Matney
Iowa Medicaid Administrator

Introduction

Executive Summary

For 2021, Governor Reynolds advised that one of her primary goals includes recognizing the value and importance of home-and-community–based care for aging Iowans and individuals with disabilities and the difference these services make in maintaining health and quality of life. Health care is changing, and Iowa must adapt. We must identify new ways to provide quality, sustainable care that meets the needs of our communities. The temporary 10 percentage point increase to the FMAP for certain Medicaid expenditures for HCBS will allow the State to enhance, expand, and strengthen, Iowa’s Medicaid HCBS Waiver programs.

In Iowa, the Medicaid Agency is a Division within the Department of Human Services (DHS). Iowa Medicaid offers a wide range of HCBS programs. The enclosed summary provides a snapshot of the work that DHS hopes to implement. To enhance and strengthen the HCBS programs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the proposed initiatives will provide increased support to service providers, increase access to services for Medicaid beneficiaries, as well as offer incentives and relief to the HCBS direct service workforce. In doing so, HCBS providers will regain financial stability and long-term services and supports (LTSS) will be enhanced and strengthened.

Introduction

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) (Pub. L. 117-2). Section 9817 of the ARPA provides qualifying states with a temporary 10 percentage point increase to the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for certain Medicaid expenditures for HCBS programs from April 1, 2021, through March 31, 2022. States must use the federal funds attributable to the increased FMAP to supplement, not supplant, existing state funds expended for Medicaid HCBS in effect as of April 1, 2021. In addition, states must use state funds equivalent to the amount of federal funds attributable to the increased FMAP to implement or supplement the implementation of one or more activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program.

Stakeholder Feedback

DHS began soliciting feedback from members and stakeholders beginning with the initial enactment of the ARPA. Stakeholder feedback regarding the use of the

enhanced FMAP was gathered through individual meetings, existing stakeholder workgroups, direct emails, and the submission of project proposals from the following stakeholder organizations:

- ◆ Iowa Association of Community Providers
- ◆ The Coalition for Family & Children's Services in Iowa
- ◆ The Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa
- ◆ The Iowa Coalition for Integration and Employment
- ◆ Immanuel Pathways PACE organization
- ◆ Siouxland PACE organization
- ◆ Iowa Caregivers Association

DHS also solicited feedback from the public for strategies to improve the quality and access to Medicaid Home and Community Based Services through public notice and a town hall meeting held July 8, 2021. One hundred and ten entities registered to participate in the town hall. Town hall attendance included service recipients and their family members, service providers, provider associations, advocacy organizations, legislators and state and local leaders. The public notice may be accessed here: <https://dhs.iowa.gov/public-notices/arpa>

Three central themes arose out of the feedback received from stakeholder. Those themes include increased training and support, expanding access to services for members, and workforce support. DHS has described the proposed projects for each of these themes in the spending plan narrative presented below.

Since the submission of the preliminary spending plan and narrative, Iowa Medicaid held member and provider town halls and will continue hold monthly town halls with members and providers to solicit feedback on the proposed projects and other topics of interest. Several ongoing stakeholder workgroups have occurred, and those participants also offered additional input into Iowa's spending plan and narrative.

Iowa Medicaid has established an ARPA Project email box to obtain ongoing stakeholder feedback and featured the ARPA HCBS Spending Plan and Narrative in the January 2022 Medicaid member newsletter.

Spending Plan Narrative

February 1, 2022, Update

DHS, Iowa Medicaid has reevaluated the HCBS Spending Plan and Narrative. Due to the early assumptions regarding Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) and Federal financial participation (FFP) for qualified expenditures and in consideration of

the critical workforce shortage experienced by HCBS providers, the spending plan has been adjusted. Adjustments include consolidating projects, elimination of projects and allocation of additional funds to the Recruitment and Retention grant project. Specific changes to the spending plan and narrative include:

- Reducing the projected budget for the Employee Training and Scholarship Grant to \$28M and allocating \$2M to the Recruitment and Retention grant project.
- Consolidating the Crisis Response Provider Training within the Provider Training Platform project and allocating the \$5M targeted for this project to the Recruitment and Retention grant project.
- Consolidating the Resources and Services for Parents with IDD/DD and for Caregivers with children with ID/DD project within the Provider Training Platform project and allocating the \$5M.
- Reducing the amount allocated for Development Grant - Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Services (CNRS) pilot for children to \$9M and allocating \$3.5M to Recruitment and Retention grant project.
- Removal of the Development grant – residential service pilot for individuals transitioning out of corrections and allocating \$5M to the Recruitment and Retention grant project.
- Removal the Development grant – residential service pilot for children with complex behavioral needs and allocating \$12.5M to the Recruitment and Retention grant project.
- Reduce the amount allocated to the Development grant- Therapeutic Foster Home pilot to \$3.5M (from the CNRS project) and reallocate \$1.5M to the Recruitment and Retention grant project.

The following provides an overview of Iowa's HCBS spending plan and includes each activity, budget information, estimated timeline for implementation, and sustainment requirements. Each proposed project demonstrates Iowa's investment in the HCBS infrastructure to enhance, expand and improve HCBS.

Based on the outcome of the pilot projects, DHS will consider submitting an 1115 demonstration, 1915(c) amendment or a 1915(i)-state plan amendment to continue the projects beyond the expenditure period. The proposed projects are divided into three sections which include:

- 1) Increased training and support, *including investment in the HCBS infrastructure including a statewide training system may provide consistent, innovative, and more efficient training opportunities to staff in all areas of the state and across provider types.*
- 2) Expanding Access to services for members, *including investment in a statewide analysis of the behavioral health, disability and aging service system, expansion of remote support and implementation of several pilot programs to address existing gaps in care.*

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- 3) Workforce support, *including expansion of the direct support worker registry and one-time recruitment and retention payments for providers.*

April 18, 2022, Update

DHS, Iowa Medicaid has reevaluated the HCBS Spending Plan and Narrative. Due to the early assumptions regarding Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) and Federal financial participation (FFP) for qualified expenditures and in consideration of the critical workforce shortage experienced by HCBS providers, and the anticipated transition of individuals residing in Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IDs) to HCBS, the spending plan has been adjusted. Adjustments include reallocation of project funds to increase HCBS provider reimbursement rates and to reduce the Intellectual Disability (ID) Waiver wait list. Specific changes to the spending plan and narrative include:

- ◆ Reducing the projected budget for the Provider Training Platform to \$8.1M reallocating \$11.9M to Reducing the ID Waiver waitlist in FFY22 Q4, FFY23 and FFY24.
- ◆ Reducing the projected budget for the Employee Training and Scholarship Grant to \$6M and allocating \$26M to increase HCBS Provider reimbursement rates in FFY22 Q4, FFY23 and FFY24.
- ◆ Adjustment to the FMAP for the projects that will be directed payments to the MCOs.
- ◆ Amendments to project timelines
- ◆ Amending the title of the Health Information Technology Infrastructure Grant to the Health Information Technology (IT) and Infrastructure Grant.
- ◆ Expanding the scope of the renamed Health Informational Technology and Infrastructure Grant to include infrastructure costs relating to starting up or expanding HCB services.

July 18, 2022, Update:

After incorporating the adjustments for the ID waiver waitlist and the HCBS rate increases into the spending plan, an unobligated balance of \$18.8M has been calculated. The \$18.8M has been incorporated into the Health IT and Infrastructure grant project and is reflected in the budget amount for Increased Training and Support in the narrative and for the Health IT and Infrastructure grant project in the spending plan.

During this past quarter, DHS, Iowa Medicaid has evaluated each of the projects in the HCBS Spending Plan and Narrative and has revised project narratives to refine the intent and purpose and expand eligible providers. The revisions are noted

under each project within the narrative as applicable. The target project completion date of March 31, 2024 has been added to each project.

Increased Training and Support

Budget: \$86,412,099

Home and Community Based Service providers work diligently to provide comprehensive training to their staff however there may be spaces in which training is needed to provide more specialized care and expand services to individuals with more complex needs. Training can be challenging to find and expensive for provider agencies to seek out individually. Investment in a statewide training system will support consistent, innovative, and more efficient training opportunities to staff in all areas of the state and across provider types.

Provider Training Platform

Activity Overview: Enhance the provider training platform under development by purchasing provider training modules and content which will include such topics as:

- ◆ Training resources for Parents with ID/DD and for Caregivers of Children with ID/DD
- ◆ Crisis Response Training and Train the Trainer Crisis Response training
- ◆ Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS)
- ◆ The Fatal Five
- ◆ Population Health Management
- ◆ Critical incident investigation,
- ◆ Person Centered Service Planning - IntellectAbility
- ◆ Rights and Restrictions,
- ◆ Employment Supports
- ◆ Serving Individual's with Brain Injury
- ◆ Serving individuals with multi-occurring diagnosis, and/or complex medical needs,
- ◆ Serving individuals with sexualized behavioral problems

DHS, Iowa Medicaid is exploring the options available to develop and provide a statewide Learning Management System for HCBS providers. The training platform will require content to be developed and or purchased.

Targeted Providers:

- 1915(c) HCBS Waiver service providers
- 1915(i) HCBS Habilitation service providers.

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- Rehabilitation Service providers including Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder, Behavioral Health Intervention Service (BHIS), Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), Crisis Response and Subacute Mental Health service providers.
 - Home Health Care
 - Personal Care and Private Duty Nursing Services
 - Self-directed Personal Care Services
 - School-based services

Timeline: Effective July 1, 2022

- ◆ The training platform will be functional January 1, 2023
- ◆ Effective January 1, 2023
 - Development and/or purchase of training content by July 1, 2023.

Target Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Sustainability plan:

- ◆ Ongoing funding support through the MFP Supplemental funding through 2024 dependent upon CMS MFP budget approval.
- ◆ Will require legislative appropriations to sustain the training platform and training content if federal funding for MFP ends or changes are made to the current MFP grant guidelines.

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- Iowa Medicaid began meeting with the University of Iowa University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) to review the functionality of the Learning Management System under development.
- Added the Training Resources for Parents with ID/DD and for Caregivers of Children with ID/DD project to the Training Platform project
- Added the Crisis Response Training and Crisis Response Train the Trainer training project to this project training.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update:

- Iowa Medicaid is exploring learning management systems in use in other states. Iowa Medicaid is reviewing systems for functionality, compatibility, maintenance, and sustainability.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

July 18, 2022, Update:

- Iowa Medicaid continues to explore learning management systems in use by HHS entities in other states. Iowa Medicaid is reviewing systems for functionality, compatibility, maintenance, and sustainability.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

HCBS Employee Training and Scholarship Grant Program

Activity Overview: Grants would serve the purpose of assisting qualified HCBS providers to fund employee training and scholarships for education and training in nursing, behavioral health, and other health care fields. Grant funds must be used to cover costs related to training and education that will enhance the quality of direct services provided and/or cover the costs related to a course of study that is expected to lead to career advancement with the provider or in the HCBS field. Potential uses of scholarship funding include:

- ◆ ISTART certification
- ◆ Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS) certification
- ◆ Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS) certification
- ◆ Crisis Response certification
- ◆ Behavioral Health Technician certification
- ◆ Employment Support Specialist certification
- ◆ Medication Aide certification
- ◆ Tuition for Community College or University Courses in Related Fields
- ◆ Compensation to direct care staff for time spent in self-study coursework for community health worker apprenticeship programs
- ◆ Purchase of Self-Study competency–based certification curriculums for employees.

Targeted Providers:

- 1915(c) HCBS Waiver service providers
- 1915(i) HCBS Habilitation service providers.
- Rehabilitation Service providers including Mental Health , Substance Use Disorder, Behavioral Health Intervention Service (BHIS), Applied

Behavioral Analysis (ABA), Crisis Response and Subacute Mental Health service providers.

- Home Health Care
- Personal Care and Private Duty Nursing Services
- Self-directed Personal Care Services

Timeline: Effective July 1, 2022

Sustainability plan: One-time cost

Target Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- The provider application process and fund disbursement plan will be developed and implemented during the fourth current quarter.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update:

- The Department intends to establish an application process for the providers to request funds.
- The Department intends to submit a Directed Payment Preprint for this project to CMS during FFY22 Q4.
- The Employee Training and Scholarship grant funds will begin to be distributed by the MCOs during FFY22 Q4.

July 18, 2022, Update:

- Iowa Medicaid is in process of establishing an application process for the providers to request funds. It is anticipated that providers will begin applying for funds FFY22 Q4.
- Iowa Medicaid intends to submit a Directed Payment Preprint for this project to CMS during FFY22 Q4.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

Health Information Technology (IT) and Infrastructure Grant

Activity Overview: Develop a provider Health IT and Infrastructure grant for providers. The movement of the system towards increased outcome monitoring and better continuity of care will take an investment in infrastructure for our HCBS providers. Potential uses of grant funding includes:

- Start-Up Costs
 - To open a HCBS service line, for new providers of high priority services (ex. Respite, CDAC, SCL, Rehabilitation services)
 - To provide the option of round-the-clock services for existing providers who expand residential services
 - To open HCBS in underserved areas
 - To develop capacity for complex care cases.
- Purchase of electronic health record (EHR) platforms, updating EHRs.
- Purchase of electronic service record software.
- Purchase of telehealth equipment and software.
- Purchase of software that replace dependency on manual processes.
- Training and development costs for use of EHR.
- Training and development costs for data management, data mining, and use of data in population health management.

Targeted Providers:

- 1915(c) HCBS Waiver service providers
- 1915(i) HCBS Habilitation service providers.

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- Rehabilitation Service providers including Behavioral Health Intervention Service (BHIS), Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), Crisis Response and Subacute Mental Health service providers.
 - Home Health Care
 - Personal Care and Private Duty Nursing Services
 - Self-directed Personal Care Services

Timeline: Effective July 1, 2022

- ◆ Development of the grant application and fund distribution process.
- ◆ Issuance of the grant application announcement.
- ◆ Receipt and processing of grant applications.
- ◆ Distribution of funds to applicants.

Sustainability plan: One-time cost

Target Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- Activity on this project will be initiated during the next quarter.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update:

- The Department intends to establish an application process for the providers to request funds.
- The Department intends to submit a Directed Payment Preprint for this project to CMS during FFY22 Q4.
- The Health IT and Infrastructure grant funds will begin to be distributed by the MCOs during FFY22 Q4.

July 18, 2022, Update:

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- Iowa Medicaid is in process of establishing an application process for the providers to request funds. It is anticipated that providers will begin applying for funds during FFY 22 Q4.
 - Iowa Medicaid intends to submit an Appendix K amendment, Disaster SPA and Directed Payment Preprint for this project to CMS during FFY 22 Q4
 - No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

Expanded Access

Budget: \$88,848,503

Provider and service access across the state can be a barrier for several reasons. Providers may be willing to expand services geographically or enhance services for those individuals with complex or specialized needs but lack the up-front investments and resources needed to do so. Utilizing this funding to invest in sustainable provider expansion is critical at a time where need is increasing.

Community Based Services Evaluation (CBSE) for Iowans with Disabilities and Behavioral Health Needs

Activity Overview: Contract with a vendor to conduct a study and gap analysis of the Behavioral Health, Aging, and Disability Services System including the HCBS Waiver programs. This will include an analysis of the services available, costs and utility of HCBS benefits incorporated into waivers, make recommendations for realignment of the service menus across the Behavioral Health, Aging, and Disability Services System.

Service system realignment should account for the interconnectivity between Medicaid State Plan, HCBS Waivers and MHDS Regional coverage of services and supports.

Contract will include technical assistance and implementation support because of the system evaluation report and findings.

Targeted Providers:

- 1915(c) HCBS Waiver service providers
- 1915(i) HCBS Habilitation service providers.

-
- Rehabilitation Service providers including Behavioral Health Intervention Service (BHIS), Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), Crisis Response and Subacute Mental Health service providers.
 - Home Health Care
 - Personal Care and Private Duty Nursing Services
 - Self-directed Personal Care Services

Timeline: Report completed by January 1, 2023

- ◆ Effective December 1, 2021
 - RFP
 - Contract

Target Project Completion Date: January 1, 2023

Sustainability plan: One-time cost to complete the study. Although we are anticipating budget neutrality the recommendations identified in the study may require legislative appropriations to fund the additional expenditures beyond 2024.

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- RFP was issued 09/03/2021
- DHS awarded the contract to Mathematica 11/30/2021
- Scope of Work to begin following contract signing in January or February 2021
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update:

- Scope of work began February 1, 2021
- The spending plan has been updated to reflect actual expenditures to date.

July 18, 2022, Update

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- This project is now being referred to as Community Based Services Evaluation (CBSE)
 - The Harkin Institute is working with Mathematica and the Iowa Department of Human Services to assess community-based services related to behavioral health, disability, and aging in Iowa. For this effort, we will be hosting listening sessions with people who receive these services, their families and caregivers, and their providers. More details on our project can be found at <https://dhs.iowa.gov/CBSE>
 - Mathematica collected data from policy staff.
 - The Website page is being updated and go live on July 5th.
 - Mathematica team continues to work through the data. Expecting the analysis to be completed during FFY 22 Q4.
 - Working on dates in October/November for an outcomes conference with Mathematica. In person listening sessions to be scheduled for FFY 23 Q1.

Community Based Services for Iowans with Disabilities and Behavioral Health Needs Realignment Implementation

Activity Overview: The state is requesting to reserve a portion of funds to be used on specific areas that are identified as gaps or barriers to access and quality as part of the system evaluation. This will provide the state flexibility to invest in focused activities that will improve the system in a strategic and objective manner. Contract with a vendor to provide implementation support because of the system evaluation report and findings. Service system realignment should account for the interconnectivity between Medicaid State Plan, HCBS Waivers and MHDS Regional coverage of services and supports.

Contract will include technical assistance and implementation support because of the system evaluation report and findings.

Targeted services include:

- 1915(c) HCBS Waiver service
- 1915(i) HCBS Habilitation service.
- Rehabilitation Services including Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder, Behavioral Health Intervention Service (BHIS), Applied Behavioral Analysis

(ABA), Crisis Response, Subacute Mental Health services, drug, and alcohol services.

- Home Health Care
- Personal Care and Private Duty Nursing Services
- Self-directed Personal Care Services
- School-based services

Timeline: Initiate Implementation Recommendations July 1, 2023

- ◆ Effective January 1, 2023
 - RFP
 - Contract

Target Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Sustainability plan: One-time cost to complete the system realignment. Although we are anticipating budget neutrality the recommendations identified in the study may require legislative appropriations to fund the additional expenditures beyond 2024.

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- RFP was issued 09/03/2021
- DHS awarded the contract to Mathematica 11/30/2021
Scope of Work for the realignment implementation to begin January 1, 2023, following completion of the evaluation.

April 18, 2022, Update:

Activity has not begun on this project.

July 18, 2022, Update:

- Project renamed to Community Based Services for Iowans with Disabilities and Behavioral Health Needs Realignment Implementation.
- Activity has not begun on this project

Assistance with Application, Care Coordination, and Referral to Services

Activity Overview: Contract with a vendor to assist with the waiver application process to ensure people are applying for the correct waiver based on their

needs and assist with care coordination and referral to service tasks as needed.

- ◆ The Department currently contracts with DHS TCM to provide case management services to the HCBS Waiver Fee-for-Service (FFS) populations on the AIDS/HIV, Health& Disability, and Physical Disability Waivers. The Department could use the same reimbursement methodology to reimburse a vendor for assisting individuals with the wavier application and referral processes.
- ◆ The intent is to provide an intake function, single point of entry, appropriate waiver application, obtaining the necessary documentation to support LOC, and connecting to other DHS services such as in home health related care (IHHR), childcare assistance, supplemental nutrition benefits and rental assistance etc. This project will supplement and not supplant existing state funds expended for Medicaid HCBS as of April 1, 2021. This will be a new support available for applicants seeking HCBS waiver services. Currently individuals seeking HCBS are only eligible to receive HCBS waiver case management services once approved for an HCBS waiver. The state plan targeted case management service is limited to individuals who are part of the target population. This includes adults who are identified with a primary diagnosis of intellectual disability, chronic mental illness, or developmental disability; or a child who is eligible to receive HCBS intellectual disability waiver services or HCBS children's mental health waiver services. This could link with a project to do a one-time screening of the members on the waitlists today.

Target Populations:

- Individuals who need HCBS and other support services and who do not have access to case management or care coordination service including.
- Individual who are not yet Medicaid eligible
- Individuals who are Medicaid eligible and do not have case management
- Individuals with brain injury
- Individuals with physical disabilities

Individuals who are age 65 and over.

Timeline: Effective January 1, 2023

- ◆ Amend the DHS TCM contract
- ◆ Establish the referral processes
- ◆ Establish SOP
- ◆ Administrative Rules – Screening Process

Targeted Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Sustainability plan: May require legislative appropriations to fund the additional expenditures beyond 2024 but the goal is to find a sustainable solution through other mechanisms.

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- Activity on this project has not been initiated.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update:

- Activity on this project has not been initiated.

No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date. July 18, 2022, Update

- Activity on this project has not been initiated
- No ARPA Funds have been expended on this project to date

Development Grant - Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Services (CNRS) pilot for children

Activity Overview: Building provider capacity through the development of one or more pilots to serve children with neurobehavioral needs in a residential setting to avoid out of state (OOS) placement and hospitalization. This service will be delivered in community-based non-institutional settings.

This project will expand capacity and will enhance, expand, and strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program by providing an in-state residential service for children with neurobehavioral needs related to brain injury. Currently there is no residential service option for children with neurobehavioral needs that are unable to receive services in the family home due to health and safety issues of the member and/or other family members. Iowa currently has eleven

children with neurobehavioral needs that are being served in out of state residential services that could be repatriated back to Iowa if a residential service existed for these children.

- ◆ The long-term expectation is that based on the results of the pilot the residential service for children will be adopted under the state plan Community-based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation services. The plan for transitioning those children to adult services upon turning eighteen would include transitioning to the HCBS BI Waiver Supported Community Living (SCL) service if their needs can be met by an SCL provider or transitioning to the residential community-based neurobehavioral residential service for adults if the individual requires additional treatment to prepare for transition to SCL. The state reserves waiver funding slots each year under the HCBS BI Waiver for individuals receiving residential community-based neurobehavioral rehabilitation services and are ready to transition to the HCBS BI Waiver.

- ◆ Estimated Number of Awards 1-3

Targeted providers:

- Rehabilitation service providers enrolled as Community-based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation service providers.
- 1915(c) HCBS BI Waiver service providers
- Other providers that are qualified through training and experience to serve this population.

Timeline: Effective: January 1, 2022

- ◆ RFP development
- ◆ Competitive bidding
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Implementation

Targeted Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Sustainability plan: Pilot results would be used to support any requested appropriations in subsequent years. Based on the results of the pilot project the state will consider submission of an 1115 demonstration to continue the project after the conclusion of the expenditure period.

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

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- Planning sessions began October 25, 2021.
 - Public Listening Sessions were held December 8, 2021.
 - A Request for Information (RFI) to solicit information to inform the Request for Proposal (RFP) development will be issued during the next quarter.
 - No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update:

- RFI Released February 18, 2022.
- Questions related to the RFI were due March 11, 2022.
- Agency posted answers to RFI questions March 25, 2022.
- RFI responses are due Friday April 29, 2022, by 3:00 PM CST. RFP is anticipated to be released during FFY22 Q4=
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

July 18, 2022, Update:

- RFP is under development.
- DHS, Iowa Medicaid intends to release the RFP during FFY22 Q4.
- DHS, Iowa Medicaid intends to contract with the selected bidder(s) during FFY23 Q1.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date

Development Grant - Pilot for Therapeutic Foster Homes

Activity Overview: Building capacity through the development foster parent trainings and support when caring for children with complex behavioral needs and trauma informed care. Medicaid would support the foster parent and child through necessary constellations of services. This project will enhance and strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program by building out a process that combines the use of Title IV-E funds for daily living expenses (care and supervision) with an array of HCBS services (care coordination, respite, and family support) for children with severe emotional disturbances to provide children in care with an effective array of services that promote placement stability in family settings and reunification. Therapeutic foster homes are a

cost-efficient alternative to congregate care, with improved outcomes for children. Building out the connection between foster care and HCBS services will assist in maintaining more children with SED in family settings and provide a continuity of care that allows them to maintain connection with supportive services as they transition home and out of child welfare services.

This project will also enhance HCBS by strengthening and expanding access to rehabilitative and crisis response services for children with complex behavioral needs by engaging BHIS, Crisis Response, ABA, and other rehabilitative service providers in the development of a robust array of training and support services. This project will also support family reunification and the transitioning of children into state plan HCBS or HCBS waiver services. This project would enhance essential supports within the continuum of care for children in Iowa and prevent long-term institutionalization.

Targeted providers:

- Licensed Foster Parents
- Licensed Foster Care Agencies
- 1915(c) HCBS Children's Mental Health Waiver providers
- Qualified Residential Treatment (QRTP) Providers
- Rehabilitation service providers including Behavioral Health Intervention Services (BHIS), Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), and other behavioral health service providers.

Timeline: Effective: January 1, 2022

- ◆ RFP development
- ◆ Competitive bidding
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Implementation

Sustainability plan: Pilot results would be used to request appropriations in subsequent years. Based on the results of the pilot project the state will consider submission of an 1115 demonstration to continue the project after the conclusion of the expenditure period.

Target Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- Internal planning sessions began December 17, 2021.

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- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update:

- Initiated research into other states' programs.
- Develop proposed Iowa model by May 2, 2022.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

July 18, 2022, Update

- Internal project team has developed the service model and refined the scope of the project, as evidenced by a written narrative and visual description.
- External stakeholder meetings and interviews are being scheduled for FFY22 Q4 to solicit feedback on the service model
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

Expand Remote Support through HCBS Provider Technology grants

Activity Overview: One-time grant to purchase technology and equipment to support the direct delivery of HCBS. Remote Support allows an off-site direct service provider to monitor and respond to a person's health, safety, and other needs using live communication, while offering the person more independence in their home. Remote support uses two-way communication in real time, just like Skype or FaceTime, so a person can communicate with their providers when they need them. This allows for a person to be more independent in their home without a provider being on site. The service also includes supports like sensors that can call for help if a person has fallen or cameras that show who is at the door. The HCBS Waivers currently cover Personal Emergency Response services (PERS) HCBS providers currently use the Night Owl system to provide for overnight monitoring of members who do not require the physical presence of a direct support staff.

One-time grant to purchase technology and equipment to support the direct delivery of HCBS may include:

- ◆ Member monitoring system purchase and installation costs
- ◆ Purchase of tablets or laptops for HCBS service sites/ programs
- ◆ Purchase of tablets or laptops for HCBS members
- ◆ Purchase of software
- ◆ Purchases of telehealth equipment

One-time grant to purchase technology and equipment to support the direct delivery of HCBS may not include:

- ◆ Internet connectivity costs

Estimated Number of Awards Unknown

Timeline: Effective: July 1, 2022

- ◆ Fiscal Analysis
- ◆ Planning
- ◆ RFP development
- ◆ SPA
- ◆ Administrative Rules
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Implementation

Target Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Sustainability plan: One-time cost

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- Activity on this project has not been initiated.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update:

- The Department intends to establish an application process for the providers to request funds.
- The Department intends to submit a Directed Payment Preprint for this project to CMS during FFY22 Q4.
- The Employee Training and Scholarship grant funds will begin to be distributed by the MCOs during FFY22 Q4.

July 18, 2022, Update:

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- Iowa Medicaid is meeting with a group of external stakeholders during FFY 22 Q4 to further refine the use of project funds, describe the application process and future reporting of project outcomes.
 - Iowa Medicaid will establish the application process for the providers to request funds during FFY22 Q4.
 - Iowa Medicaid intends to submit a Directed Payment Preprint, and Appendix K for this project to CMS during FFY22 Q4.
 - No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

Reduce the Intellectual Disability (ID) Waiver waitlist

Activity Overview: Allocate funds to add additional funding slots to the ID waiver to reduce the ID Waiver waitlist while furthering the vision of expanded access. The current ID Waiver fiscal capacity is 12,182 participants, of which 11,879 are currently filled with another 97 pending approval. There are approximately 5,895 Iowans on the ID Waiver waitlist as of April 3, 2022. The proposed addition of ID Waiver funding slots will provide the capacity to enroll additional applicants onto the waiver and to meet the growing demand for HCBS.

Target Population:

- Individuals with an ID diagnosis applying to the waiver

Timeline: July 1, 2023

July 18, 2022, Update:

- Iowa Medicaid allocated \$7.4M to add 399 funding slots to the ID Waiver.
- Iowa Medicaid has identified that the additional waiver slots do not impact the point in time number served or the unduplicated number served at any time across the waiver.
- Iowa Medicaid will begin releasing the additional slots during FFY 22 Q4.

Workforce Support

Budget: \$190,102,145

While workforce is a substantial concern for several sectors, this is an area of particular concern for Home and Community Based Service providers across the state that has only been made worse by the pandemic. Investing in meaningful and sustainable solutions to attracting and retaining individuals to the important work of Home and Community Based Services is critical.

Direct Support Employment Network and Hiring Resource

Activity Overview: The Department intends to develop or contract with a vendor to establish an employment network and hiring resource platform to include the personal care service providers such as Individual Consumer Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) providers and Consumer Choices Option (CCO) employees. The expectation is that these direct service providers will be able to log into the system to record their service area, hours of work, experience, training, credentials, availability for work and waiver program enrollment if applicable. The resource will then be used by Medicaid members seeking personal care providers such as ICDAC or CCO employees to locate workers that match their care needs.

- ◆ During the 2021 Legislative session, HF692 was introduced but not passed. This bill was related to the development of an implementation plan for a centralized direct care workforce database to enhance the portability of continuing education, credentials, and certifications of the direct care workforce; streamline data collection and analysis to support interagency planning and legislative decision making; and assist Iowans needing direct care workforce services and supports and their families in living successfully in their community of choice.

Timeline: July 1, 2022

- ◆ Fiscal Analysis
- ◆ Planning
- ◆ RFP development
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Implementation

Target Project Completion Date: March 31, 2024

Sustainability plan: Requires funding to provide the FTE or contract support to maintain the registry unless it can be absorbed into an existing appropriation or staff function.

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- Activity on this project has not been initiated.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update:

- In the discovery phase. Internal discussions are occurring.

July 18, 2022, Update

- Project has been renamed the Direct Support Employment Network and Hiring Resource.
- Internal workgroup has reviewed employment networks and hiring resources utilized by other states.
- An external stakeholder meeting will be held to review network platform under consideration during FFY 22 Q4.
- A Direct Support Employment Network and Hiring Resource software or platform package will be identified during FFY 22 Q4.

One-time Recruitment/Retention Provider Payments

Activity overview: Provider payments would serve the purpose of assisting qualified HCBS providers to fund recruitment and retention of direct support professionals. Grant funds must be used to cover costs related direct support professional wage increases, recruitment, and retention incentive payments to direct support professionals.

Targeted providers:

- HCBS Waiver Individual Consumer Directed Attendant Care (ICDAC) providers
- HCBS Waiver Agency Consumer Directed Attendant Care (CDAC)
- HCBS Waiver Consumer Choices Option Employees (COO)

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- HCBS Waiver Day Habilitation providers
 - HCBS Waiver Supported Community Living (SCL) providers
 - HCBS Waiver Respite providers
 - HCBS Waiver Prevocational and Supported Employment (SE) providers
 - HCBS Waiver Adult Day Care providers
 - State Plan HCBS Habilitation Home-based Habilitation (HBH)
 - State Plan HCBS Habilitation Day Habilitation providers
 - State Plan HCBS Habilitation Prevocational and Supported Employment (SE) providers
 - Behavioral Health Intervention Services (BHIS)
 - Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

The department will distribute an equal share of the funds for each FTE identified.

For the purposes of calculating the amount to be distributed per FTE:

- ICDAC providers will be considered 1 FTE.
- CCO employees providing self-directed personal care services, self-directed community supports, and employment or individual-directed goods and services will be considered as 1 FTE.
- Agency providers shall calculate direct care worker FTE. An FTE is equal to a 32-hour work week. The agency provider shall not request funding for FTEs more than the total number of open and filled positions within the agency. Two direct care workers working 16 hours per week shall be treated as 1 FTE.

Amount to be distributed per FTE = Total dollars / Total FTEs

To be eligible for grant funds, the HCBS waiver agency, Habilitation agency, and ICDAC providers:

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- billed a Managed Care Organization or Fee-for-Service Medicaid for health-related services provided between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021.
 - continued to provide patient care after July 1, 2021.
 - has not permanently ceased providing patient care directly or indirectly.
 - with respect to Medicare, any state Medicaid program, and any Federal health care program, the Recipient is not:
 - (i) suspended or excluded from participation.
 - (ii) suspended from receiving payments.
 - (iii) under any other sanction or penalty

Timeline: January 1, 2022

- ◆ Develop the provider payment process
- ◆ Identify qualified providers
- ◆ Make payments

Target Project Completion Date: September 30, 2022

Sustainability plan: One-time cost.

Project Activity:

February 1, 2022, Update:

- Planning sessions began in November 2021.
- The application period was announced January 26, 2022.
- The funds will be distributed to eligible providers during February and March 2022.
- No ARPA funds have been expended on this project to date.

April 18, 2022, Update

- Developed the application process for ICDAC and Agency HCBS Providers to request funds.
- Accepted first round applications for the grant funds.

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- Submitted the directed payment preprint, 1915(k) and Disaster SPA to CMS.
 - Received approval to distribute the funds to the MCOS.
 - Distributed the funds to the MCOs.
 - MCOs distributed the first round of funds to the ICDAC, HCBS agency provider applicants and the financial management service for the self-direction program participants employees.
 - Second application period opened and runs through April 22, 2022.
 - Second round of fund distribution to ICDAC and agency providers applying during the second application period to occur during FFY22 Q3.
 - The spending plan has been updated to reflect actual expenditures for this project.

July 18, 2022, Update

- Iowa Medicaid intends to submit an amended directed payment preprint, 1915(k) to CMS during FFY 22 Q4.
- Third round application period established to include the following provider types:
 - HCBS Brain Injury (BI) Waiver, Intellectual Disability (ID) Waiver and HCBS Habilitation Prevocational services and Supported Employment services.
 - AIDS/HIV, BI, Elderly, Health and Disability (HD), ID Waiver Adult Day Care,
 - Children's Mental Health Waiver (CMHW) In-home family therapy and Family and community support.
 - Behavioral Health Intervention Services (BHIS)
 - Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- A fourth-round application will be established to fully expend any remaining recruitment and retention funds during FFY 22 Q4.
- Iowa Medicaid intends to submit and amended directed payment preprint, 1915(k) (as applicable) to CMS during FFY 22 Q4.

HCBS Provider Rate Increases

Activity overview: 1915(c) and State Plan HCBS service rate increases will serve the purpose of assisting qualified HCBS providers to maintain or potentially increase current service levels.

Targeted Providers:

- 1915(c)HCBS Waiver providers
- 1915(i) State Plan HCBS Habilitation providers

Target Project Completion date: March 31, 2024

For dates of service beginning July 1, 2022, Iowa Medicaid will increase the fee schedule rates for HCBS Waiver and HCBS Habilitation services by a percentage amount allowed within the funds designated for this purpose.

Iowa Medicaid will submit a SPA for the 1915(i) increasing the rates.

Sustainability Plan: The legislature has committed to appropriating funds during the 2023 legislative session to continue the provider rate increases beyond March 31, 2024.

Project Activity:

July 18, 2022, Update:

- 1915(i) SPA posted for public comment June 29, 2022
- The 1915(i) SPA and Pre-Print will be submitted to CMS during FFY2022 Q4.

Budget and Next Steps

Budget

Iowa Medicaid has provided the updated spending plan budget on Attachment A

Next Steps

Iowa Medicaid will continue to develop detailed project plans for each proposed project area. These plans will include clearly articulated goals, timelines, partners, and budget projections. Plan will be modified based on feedback provided by CMS. Iowa Medicaid has initiated project planning sessions and will schedule additional stakeholder engagement opportunities to

continue to refine and implement plans. For projects that require ongoing financial support through legislative appropriation, Iowa Medicaid will develop and submit requests to the State Legislature for review during the next legislative cycle

